

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 /084 W  
-----024233 121845Z /53

P R 121828Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5602  
INFO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 20342

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS MASS CD FR  
SUBJ: QUAI COMMENTS ON CHAD

1. ACCORDING TO QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA,  
CHRISTIAN DE LA ROCHERE, THE CHADIAN GOVERNMENT REMOVED  
ITS TROOPS LAST SATURDAY FROM ALL OUTPOSTS IN  
NORTHERN CHAD EXCEPT LARGEAU AND FADA. LA ROCHERE  
SAID THAT CHADIAN FORCES HAD FOUGHT RELATIVELY WELL AT  
BARDAI BUT WERE OUTMANNED AND OUTGUNNED. GIVEN THE  
PATENT INABILITY OF OTHER CHADIAN TROOPS TO DO ANY  
BETTER AGAINST THE REBELS, NDJAMENA DECIDED TO PULL  
THEM BACK AND THE TIBESTI IS "LOST".

2. LA ROCHERE DESCRIBED THE CURRENT SITUATION IN CHAD  
AS "VERY UNCERTAIN". THE THREE HUNDRED-ODD FRENCH  
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TROOPS IN THE COUNTRY ARE PRACTICALLY ALL LOCATED IN  
NDJAMENA AND WILL NOT BE USED OPERATIONALLY, ALTHOUGH  
THEY DO PERFORM SUCH SIMPLE FUNCTIONS AS THE BOOKKEEPING  
AND MAINTENANCE NECESSARY TO KEEP THE CHADIAN ARMY  
TOGETHER. HE DOUBTED THAT EGYPT, MOROCCO OR SUDAN  
WOULD SEND FORCES TO CHAD, BUT GAVE NO DETAILS ABOUT  
THE CONVERSATIONS THE FRENCH MAY HAVE HAD WITH THOSE

GOVERNMENTS. WHEN INFORMED THAT VP DJIME PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE SUCCESSFUL IN HIS QUEST FOR AMERICAN ARMS, LA ROCHERE LIMITED HIS REACTION TO A GESTURE OF HELPLESSNESS, ACCOMPANIED WITH A SAD, KNOWING SMILE.

3. SO FAR, THE FRENCH FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE THE DEGREE TO WHICH THESE REVERSES HAVE WEAKENED THE MALLOUM REGIME, BUT APPEAR TO BELIEVE THAT ITS DAYS ARE NUMBERED. THEY ALSO WONDER, LA ROCHERE SAID, WHETHER THE THREE RIVAL REBEL GROUPS ARE, IN FACT, COOPERATING, AND JUST WHAT THEY MAY WANT OF THE CHADIAN GOVERNMENT. AFTER NOTING THAT THE LIBYANS PERSIST IN SAYING THAT THEY ARE NOT INVOLVED WITH WHAT IS AN INTERNAL REBELLION, HE ALSO REMARKED THAT THE LONG-RUN CHANCES OF LIBYA'S BEING ABLE TO EXERT SOME CONTROL OVER THE NOMADS ARE BETTER THAN CHAD'S SINCE THE DESERT PEOPLES WOULD NEVER SUBMIT TO THE RULE OF THE BLACK LEADERS OF NDJAMENA.  
HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** REPORTS, WAR, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** QUAI COMMENTS ON CHAD  
**TAGS:** PINS, MASS, CD, FR, (DE LA ROCHERE, CHRISTIAN)  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009